



# Willistown Troop 78

Website: [www.tr78.org](http://www.tr78.org)

Facebook: [Willistown Boy Scout Troop 78](#)

YouTube Channel: [Troop 78](#)

Volume 34 Number 10

June 2018

## Radnor!



### May

31 Thursday Troop Meeting Field Day Part I 7PM

### June

1 Friday - 3 Sunday OA Conclave, members only

3 Sunday [Field Day and Picnic 3PM cabin](#)

5 Tuesday Board of Review 7PM

Troop Committee 7:30PM

6 Wednesday Patrol Leaders' Council 7:30PM

8 Friday - 10 Sunday [OA Service Weekend](#),

members and candidates only

14 Thursday Troop Meeting 7PM

15 Friday - 17 Sunday [Raft trip Youghiogheny River](#)

23 Saturday PLC to Camp Horseshoe

24 Sunday - July 1 Sunday, [Week #1, Horseshoe](#)

### July

1 Sunday - Sunday 8, [Week #2, Horseshoe](#)

7 Saturday [Horseshoe Alumnae reunion, Camp](#)

### August

2 Wednesday - Thursday 16 Philmont

4 Saturday - 11 Saturday Algonquin

[Click here for full calendar](#)

**Please print out this Newsletter and post a copy for everyone to see.**

### Inside This Issue

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Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour

Whitewater Rafting Trip

.... and much more

# Troop 78 Assists the Brandywine Conservancy

## Rainy Radnor Races

May 19, 2018

By Luke Fox and Jim Fox

There are easy ways to park cars, and there are hard ways to park cars. Troop 78 volunteers got to witness both as the troop participated in helping out at Radnor races for the 28th time.

The troop endured rainy weather conditions with temperatures in the 50s as high-end automobiles, mini-vans, and buses made their best attempts to park in the horse pastures in order to watch brave jockey's race their horses on to victory.

Many first-time and many long-time scouts from the troop turned out to help with directing cars into the correct parking areas. Four-wheel drive vehicles were the most successful in getting to their preferred parking spaces. School buses, catering trucks, and minivans struggled and sometimes got fantastically stuck in several inches of mud. Caterers and guests ended up moving some of their supplies on foot or by golf cart from less ideal parking spaces once they realized that the mud had won.

Troop 78 Scouts built muscles and good will with pushing cars out of the mud, selling programs, directing cars with bright orange flags, and splashing in the mud to add some extra excitement.

Despite the challenging weather conditions, many owners still raced their horses. The rider's and horse's stamina were matched by Troop 78 scouts, family members, and friends who turned out to support the race which raised funds to conserve open space in Chester County.

Mr. Schallack volunteered to drive the large tractor and help pull cars out of their muddy predicaments. Even the tow truck needed a tow out of the mud at one point after getting stuck! Many of the patrons at the event rolled down their windows or waved to thank the troop for their service.

On the Sunday after the race, Troop 78 cleaned up the grounds to ensure that horses would not be eating water bottles, cell phones, and left-behind food.

All participants slept very well at night having done a good deed for our community which helped to continue the tradition of 28 years of serving the Brandywine Conservancy.

A special thanks to Bob Matje, and Brian Rothberg for their tireless support in coordinating the troop's participation in this very successful event.



# Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour

## **Return to Darkness**

Saturday May 5 - Sunday May 6, 2018

By Chris St. Clair

At 8:00 a.m. on Saturday May 5, the troop was headed out of Willistown and up to Northern PA in the city of Scranton to explore the Lackawanna Coal Mine. Before anyone could leave however, one thing had to be adjusted, Who will be the SPL for the trip? (Nate Motel did not come :( ) It was decided that Chris St. Clair would be the SPL on the trip because he was oldest and most “experienced”! So we set off on the two and a half hour journey.

When we arrived, we were first able to sit and eat before descending 250+ feet below ground. When we made our way down it was dark, quiet and full of coal. We traveled throughout different tunnels learning about the life of coal miners. When we came out, we had time to explore the area to see what was around. Later that day, we came to Lackawanna State Park where we set up camp.

In our free time we enjoyed talking and chilling, playing games like British bulldogs in a field nearby, and attempting to fit 5 scouts into a three man tent! (Brandon Schallack, Zach Fox, Bryce Elliot, Thomas Pizzuto, and Chris St. Clair.) Dinner that night was spaghetti and meatballs along with lemonade ice tea. Later on, scouts made a fire and told scary stories and played games. At 10:00 everyone finally went to bed.

The next morning, we woke up a bit damp and cold but that didn’t stop anyone from getting up and having breakfast. When we were all packed, we headed for a museum to further extend our knowledge about life in the mines. Finally we headed back home from Northern Scranton to Southern Willistown.



# Update Youth Protection Training (YPT)

## **All Adult Leaders Need to Update Youth Protection Training**

Deadline September 30, 2018

The BSA has recently introduced newly updated youth protection training that is **required for all registered adults and volunteers by September 30th, 2018**. Anyone who took the old training prior to the February 2018 rollout is required to be re-certified again.

The updated training includes three modules and a test that takes a little over an hour to complete. Once completed, this training will cover Chester County Council volunteers through the end of 2019.

To get started, go to <http://my.scouting.org> and sign in using your Username and Password. Click on the ‘Begins with Youth Protection’ symbol or click on ‘Menu’ in upper left corner and select ‘My Dashboard’. I recommend you read the ‘How to Guide for Taking Youth Protection Training’ PDF for detailed instructions. There seems to be a delay between ‘Add Plan’ and the ‘Launch Course’ button appearing. Based on my experience with the new training you should plan on at least 90 minutes to complete the training.

**Don’t delay, take it today!**

# Troop Field Trip

## **Excursion to Ridley Creek State Park for a nature walk and talk.**

Friday May 11, 2018

**By Nathan Motel**

For our regularly scheduled Troop Meeting on Friday May 11 we gathered at the cabin at the usual time. Then we loaded all of the scouts and leaders onto the Troop bus for a mystery trip. About 15 minutes later we landed at Ridley Creek State Park. There we met naturalist Gary Stolz, a ranger with the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and a long time Scouter. The goal of the evening's program was to lead the scouts in a discussion which would cover the nature requirements from Scout to First Class. The scouts need to identify poisonous plants, native plants and invasive plants and animals.

Ranger Gary walked the group around the park and led an active discussion of the surrounding plants and animals. At one point he asked the group to stop and be as silent as possible (pretty difficult for this group). Then he identified 5 different birds just by listening to their calls/song.

We finished up with a display of feathers and plaster casts of foot / paw prints he has gathered over the years. Then we loaded everybody back on the bus for the ride back to the cabin and we had a snack along the way.

We did it all in the usual Troop meeting time slot! We would like to try to do a few of these Field Trip Troop Meetings a year. So we are looking for ideas for the next field trip in the fall. Please let us know if you have an idea for a field trip we could do from 7 - 9PM on a Friday night. It probably should be an activity related to scout skills or some outdoor adventure, but we can consider anything fun even if it is not scout skill related. Let me know your ideas!



# Troop 78 Builds New Tent Platforms for Dan Beard

## **Tent Platform Update**

**By Ernie Heegard**

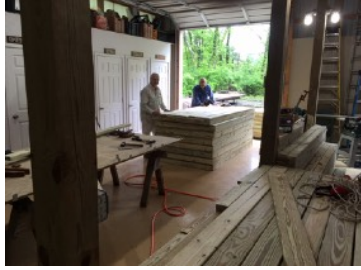
Over the last two weeks the platform project for the Dan Beard Camp Site became a reality. Because of the generosity of those who chipped in for the fundraising part of this well needed endeavor, we were able to raise the exact amount needed to purchase the lumber. After a 13% discount by Home Depot and our tax-free status, this nicely covered our costs which were \$6300 and change.

Our building began with the creation of some jigs and fixtures to speed up and simplify the lumber cutting operation. We needed 830 pieces cut to a required size. This turned out to be a back-breaking operation. Next was the assembling and nailing together of 7 pieces of 2X4s and decking them with 9 pieces of pressure-treated planking. This was accomplished using nail guns and over 7000 nails. The team worked 3 days on this part of the operation.

Fifty-two half platforms slid out the door of our bus barn resulting in 4 stacks of 13 platforms. Each platform weighed more than 100 pounds and proved to be the most strenuous part of the build.

The delivery team, aided by Mark Siegle, his forklift loader and his two trailers, made short work of getting the platforms to Camp Horseshoe. Miles Stevens furnished the second truck to pull the second trailer. The platforms are spread around the Dan Beard campsite and are awaiting final assembly on the June Order of the Arrow weekend, June 8 - June 10.

The A-team members were: Mark Siegle, Miles Stevens, Bill Trowell, Jerry Brown, John Souder, George Gruss, Steve D'Antonio, Ethan Bilson, Arek Conners, Dan Conners, and Ernie Heegard. Thank you to the 11 members of Troop 78's A team who put in the many hours of hard work resulting in 26 magnificent new tent platforms for our campsite this summer!



## Notice of Upcoming Events

### **Field Day and Family Picnic**

Sunday June 3, 2018 3PM at the cabin

Please join us Sunday June 3 at the cabin for an afternoon of fun, scout skills demonstrations, an Eagle Award Ceremony and a picnic. We are going to have a packed afternoon!

The scouts will compete in Field Day events, showing their scout skills and vying for the Field Day Trophy for 2018.

Then we will recognize the achievements of three of our scouts in the awarding of Scouting's highest rank: Eagle.

Then we will enjoy a picnic of delicious home cooked hamburgers and hotdogs.

All families are asked to bring one side dish or a salad to share.

[Please click here for more information.](#)

### **Order of the Arrow Service Weekend**

Friday June 8 - Sunday June 10

We will be gathering again at Camp Horseshoe, our favorite place on Earth. This time will be inducting several more Troop 78ers into the Order and working on service projects around the camp. The first and most important project will be the setting of new platforms in our campsite: Dan Beard. Over the past few weeks, crews of dedicated volunteers, headed up by Ernie, have been building the new platforms at the cabin and trailering them down to the camp. Thanks to all who donated to the build-the-platform fund!

After the platforms are placed, we will field a crew to clean up the area around at the camp gate, farmhouse, and pole barn, which has to be completed in time for the welcoming of thousands of scouts for the summer season.

Hope to see you all there!

[Click here for more information.](#)

# Whitewater Rafting on the Youghioghenny River

Friday June 15 - Sunday June 17

Ahh yes, springtime in Pennsylvania! After a long, cold, and snowy winter and a rainy spring, it can only mean one thing: lots of water in the river! So we will be returning to Ohiopyle (“water whitened by froth”) for a jaunt down the mighty Youghioghenny (“circuitous or winding stream”). In the past we have done the upper Yough, with whitewater rapids in the 2 - 3 range. This time around we are doing the lower Yough with whitewater in the 3 - 4 range. It will prove to be a thrilling ride for sure.

Hope to see you all there. Pictures and video in the next Newsletter.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## Summer Camp is Right Around the Corner!

Sunday June 24 - Sunday July 8, 2018

By Tim Hornickle

Winter has ended and it's time for summer camp!

[Click here for a countdown clock to summer camp!](#)

Troop 78 will soon arrive at the Dan Beard Campsite at Camp Horseshoe for two weeks:

- Week One starts on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> and ends on July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Week Two begins on Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on July 8<sup>th</sup>

**Medical forms are due May 31st.** The health form is on the troop website and must be less than one calendar year old for the entire time you are at camp. Please make sure the completed medical form includes parts A, B & C with a front and back copy of your medical insurance card.

At camp Troop 78 Scouts learn many skills for rank advancement, hundreds of merit badges, and display their teamwork, skills, and Scout spirit in the many games and contests at camp. The basis for our Scouting program is camping, and this two-week period is always the highlight of our Scouting year.

Your troop committee and leadership would like to have 100% of the troop in camp this summer. We are encouraging 2<sup>nd</sup> year and up campers to stay for two weeks.

If you have any questions, please contact Tim Hornickle at [thornickle@msn.com](mailto:thornickle@msn.com) or call at (610) 742-1560.

[Click here for more information about Summer Camp.](#)



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